The THOREAU SOCIETY BULLETIN

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The Thoreau Society, Inc., is an informal gathering of students and admirers of Henry David Thoreau. Edmund Schofield, president; Eric Parkman Smith, treas.; Walter Harding, sec.; Bradley P. Dean, asso, sec. Address communications to the secretary at 19 Oak Street, Geneseo, N.Y. 14454 (Tel. 716-243-3967). Dues: $20; students $10; family $35; benefactor $100; life $500. Dues should be sent to the Thoreau Society, 156 Belknap St., Concord, Mass. 01742.

ON FIFTY YEARS OF EDITING THE BULLETIN
by Walter Harding

With this issue of the bulletin I bring a half-century of editing our bulletin to a close. With the next issue Bradley Dean will take over both the secretaryship of the society and the editing of the bulletin--though I will continue to edit that section of the bulletin entitled "Additions to the Thoreau Bibliography." I certainly little dreamed back in 1941 when I put together the first bulletin that I would continue to edit it for half a century. But it has been a great adventure for me and one of the real joys of my life.

There has been only one break in the continuity of the bulletin. In 1942 I was drafted as a conscientious objector to World War II and handed in my resignation as secretary and editor of the bulletin. The society instead chose to place me on leave of absence. T. Morris Longstreth was named acting secretary to keep up the society's records, but no one specific was selected to take over the editing of the bulletin, so it began appearing only very sporadically and a number of issues were missed in 1942 and 1943. (That explains why the current issue is #195 rather than a round #200.) But in 1944 I was able to resume my editing and the bulletin has gone on steadily ever since.

The first issue in October, 1941, consisted of one mimeographed page and it went out to fewer than one hundred people--if I recall correctly to about seventy paid ($1.00) members and the rest "freebies" to try to stimulate circulation. By issue #10 we were large enough to start printing by photo-offset. It was not until #99 that we were able to achieve our current 8-page format. Our present circulation is just under 1500 and goes out to nearly (but not quite) all fifty states and to every continent but Antarctica.

The bulletins have had their quirks and oddities. Librarians probably curse the fact that one issue got dated in the wrong year because I mailed copy to the printer in December, forgetting that it would be distributed in January. And another issue got dated in the wrong century--I guess because I spend so much time doing research in the nineteenth century that I forget occasionally which century I am living in. Occasionally things have unwittingly appeared twice in the bulletin because I had forgotten the earlier appearance. The worst example of this was when I printed in subsequent issues exactly the same article, word for word--and the worst thing about it was that it was an article written by me--and still worse, it was about me! You were all too polite to point out my goof and it was not until several years later in going over some of the back issues that I noticed it.

I am tremendously grateful to so many of you who have so faithfully and consistently sent in to me material for the bulletin. One particular issue that I especially checked I found that more than seventy different members had sent in material. I would like particularly to commend Rev. Edward Johnson, Edmund Schofield, Mary Sherwood, and Rick Thompson for being particularly faithful about this.

I am constantly flooded--but delighted with the mail you members send in. It has not only helped with the bulletin but also for the various articles, lectures and books about Thoreau that I have written or edited. Many of these projects were actually instigated by your questions and all were greatly helped by them. My colleagues at the college often call me "the mail-gettingest guy" on the campus and I look upon my daily visit to my mailbox as one of the highpoints of the day. Upon a rough check I found that I write between eight hundred and a thousand letters a year in reply to your inquiries.

Although my job as secretary and editor has been a non-paying job (This is not a complaint--it is exactly the way I wanted it to be.), its "perks" in terms of joys and friendships made have been overwhelming.

I want to wish Brad Dean the best of luck and the many joys I have experienced in his now taking over my job. I look forward to the improvements that I know he will bring to the bulletin.

I trust I will continue to see you at the annual meetings and elsewhere--particularly at the fiftieth anniversary meeting this summer. I hope also you will continue to correspond with me. A few weeks ago I received a letter from a young man asking if he could correspond with me about Thoreau. My immediate answer was that I am always happy to correspond with anyone about Thoreau. I would like to remind you that I will still be editing "Additions to the Tho-

reau Bibliography" and I hope you will continue to send me material for that.

And finally, thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your secretary and editor. It has been one of the great joys of my life. Thank you!

ii-6-53

(Note these drawings are taken from Thoreau's JOURNAL for the dates listed.)

I DISCOVER THOREAU by Walter Harding

[Editor's Note: Sorry that this number of the bulletin seems to be chiefly by me, but as HDT says, "I should not talk so much about myself if there were any body else whom I knew as well," and there is so much I want to say before I leave. Forgive me!]

For some years now, as you regular readers of our bulletin all know, I have been featuring a series of essays entitled "I Discover Thoreau" by various of our members. In this bulletin, the last bulletin I am to edit, I am going to take my own turn and present my own "I Discover Thoreau." Since "How did you happen to get interested in Thoreau?" is by far the most frequent question I have been asked over the years that I have had my love affair with Henry Thoreau, perhaps it is about time I really tried to answer the question, for although I have tried to answer the question at least briefly whenever I have been asked, I have never been certain that I have been telling the truth or whether I have been deceived by my own imagination, for my interest in Thoreau started many years ago.

Fortunately (in this case at least) I have always loved to write things down, and checking back through my files in recent days I have been surprised at how much comment on the development of my fascination for Thoreau I have recorded here and there. So here goes.

In the spring of 1936, in my freshman year in college I felt impelled to buy a copy of WALDEN, the cheapest one available--that typographical monstrosity in Burt's Home Library--for a dollar. (I still have that copy and it is labeled #1 in the catalog of my collection of Thoreauviana which now numbers more than thirteen thousand cataloged items.) It was in the middle of the depression then and one dollar was a lot of money for someone trying to earn his way through college. What impelled me to do it I am not sure now. In my junior year in high school I had had a superb teacher of American literature, a Miss Esther O'-Hara, and she was the one who got me started on serious reading. I had always been a bookworm, but she was the one who made me aware that there were ordinary books and great books, and that it was silly to waste one's time on ordinary books when one could be reading great books. She had a great love for the 19th century New England authors and, growing up in New England myself, only forty miles from Concord, I was intrigued by and started reading the Concord group in depth. Somehow from the very start I had a very special feeling for Thoreau. I remember visiting Walden Pond and Sleepy Hollow while in high school and feeling especially attracted to Thoreau. I suppose my life-long interest in nature and particularly in birds had something to do with it. But strangely enough I started reading the other Concordians--Emerson and Hawthorne, for example--first. Like the little boy who saves the frosting of his cake to the last, I put off reading Thoreau while I read the works of his friends. My Burt's Home Library WALDEN sat unread on my shelves for two whole years.

In 1937, Edith Ames, my hometown public librarian, who took a friendly interest in my reading, called my attention to Francis Allen's then new edition of selections from Thoreau's JOURNAL entitled MEN OF CONCORD, that wonderful collection illustrated by the two Wyeths, N.C. and Andrew. I borrowed the library copy and after reading it, jotted down in my notebook:

> Every time I read one of these [Concord] authors I am inclined to think that he is greatest. They are all so great that it really is difficult to determine who is better than the others. Right now after reading Thoreau, I feel he is greater than the others. I know I shall probably change my mind when I return to the others. His simplicity is his greatest appeal. He can express the deepest thoughts in the clearest and simplest words that even the commonest man can understand. And yet his underlying thoughts are great enough to attract the greatest thinkers. Thoreau has a universal appeal.

Two months later I read Odell Shepard's then new biography of Bronson Alcott, PEDLAR'S PROGRESS, and wrote in my notes:

> It is interesting that in reading this biography of Alcott that my interest was aroused not so thoroughly in him as in one of his closest friends, a man I have long been deeply interested in beneath my surface, and that is Thoreau. More and more he grows upon me as the greatest of this group. Greater even than Emerson.

A month later I was reading Van Wyck Brooks' THE FLOWERING OF NEW ENGLAND and I noted:

> The more I read of this group the more Emerson and Thoreau stand out head and shoulders above the rest. Thoreau, especially, since he has never achieved quite the fame of Emerson and yet he so deserves it.

Brooks' FLOWERING was, I think, the book that impelled me finally to take that

Burt's Home Library WALDEN down off the shelf and read it through. The result in my notes was:

> I realized more and more that I couldn't go on without reading it. So instead of putting it off any longer, I started reading it through. Now I wonder whatever kept me away from it. How did I live without it? It is as calming and pacifying as a singing brook and as bracing as a wind from the ocean. I forget all that ever bothered me and relax.
>
> And how I wish I had the courage to relax and enjoy life as Thoreau did. How I wish I could forsake this mad success hunt that we attempt to call life and settle down to the real life of Thoreau. How much happier a life that would be. But I'm afraid not to keep up with the Joneses. Will I ever learn?
>
> People rave about Emerson and call him our greatest American. His name is plastered through all the school textbooks. His statues and his portraits are as familiar as old shoes--almost. And a great deal of his greatness is due him. But I wonder if in all our adulation of Emerson we don't overlook the quieter Thoreau--a man perhaps even greater than Emerson

By the spring of 1939, in my senior year of college, I wrote in my notes:

> If I could read the works of only one author, I think I should choose Thoreau. No other author that I know of has his appeal to me. I love to spend hours and hours just dawdling through his pages and reveling in the beauty of it all.

It was that same spring that I happened upon a set of the eleven-volume Riverside Edition of Thoreau for $7.50--not $7.50 a volume, but $7.50 for the entire set! But alas as far as my pocketbook was concerned it might as well have been $750.00. It was still depression and I was still working my way through college. The dealer said he would hold the set for a dollar, but I didn't even have the dollar to give him. I was depressed enough that night when I got home that my parents asked me what was the matter and I told them my problem. The next morning when I got up there was $7.50 by my breakfast plate. It was my birthday and my parents had scraped the bottoms of their pocketbooks to make up the sum for me. I rushed back to the bookstore and the set was still there. In a few minutes it was mine and I embarked on one of the greatest reading binges of my life.

The next fall I began teaching in a little mountain town in western Massachusetts. As I pored over that Riverside Edition evenings I wanted so much to share my thoughts with someone. But, alas, there was no one in that little village who had heard of Thoreau, let alone be enthused about him. And so it was that I began to write to anyone I heard of who was the least interested in him--authors, editors, or just plain enthusiasts when I could find them. Nearly everyone replied that I must get in touch with Raymond Adams, the dean of Thoreau scholars at the University of North Carolina. He had been sending out occasionally a little "Thoreau Newsletter" to forty or fifty of his friends. He sent me one and when I replied to it so enthusiastically that he then sent me a whole backfile. Eventually I entered the graduate school at North Carolina and completed my master's degree under his direction, doing my thesis on Thoreau as a lecturer. Raymond had a great impact on me and he served as a role model for me for much of my professional career.

4-11-52

People often say to me, non-Thoreauvians chiefly, "Don't you ever get tired of Thoreau?" And my honest answer has to be, "No." I remember one day perhaps about forty years ago when I thought for a day that I might be losing interest. But fortunately I regained my sanity the very next day and have sailed happily the same course ever since.

People also often wonder that I don't tire of writing about Thoreau after editing nearly two hundred bulletins, writing and/or editing some twenty-odd books on him and uncounted articles. But writing about him still gives me the greatest pleasure. Most of my books, etc., get written in trying to answer some questions of my own about him. I do the research and then decide to share my findings with my friends.

I have never been interested in directly imitating Thoreau. I have never tried living alone in a cabin in the woods nor in going to jail (though I hope I would have the courage to go to jail for a moral principle). I think it much more important (and more Thoreauvian) to try to be myself. As I said in an early bulletin (#5), "I study Thoreau so that I may better understand myself as a human being. He has revealed himself so completely in his JOURNAL that he represents to me man." As my old friend Ted Bailey once said to me, "I shall never be rid of Henry." For that I am thankful.

9-2-53

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We are indebted to the following for information sent in for this bulletin: W.Bottorff, J.Cooney, J.Dawson, G.Frost, R.Graham, E.Johnson, K.Kasegawa, L.Lane, G.Lowden, W.Mott, K.Ono, L.Phillips, D.Robinson, E.Schofield, M.Sherwood, M.Sperber, J.Welch, D.Williams, and R.Winslow. Please send notice of items missed and new ones as they appear to

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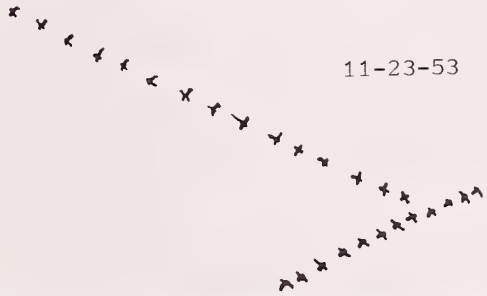

THE SOURCE OF A WALDEN LEGEND by Walter Harding

The early Concord newspaper the MIDDLESEX GAZETTE for August 11, 1821 gives the following brief bit signed "S" which obviously is quite possibly the source of the Indian legend which Thoreau gives us in his chapter on "The Ponds":

Walden Pond

This pond, in the southerly part of town, has something singular, both in its appearance and in the tradition concerning it. It is said that the place which now contains a body of water, was once a high hill--that on this hill the Indians assembled at certain seasons to celebrate their religious festivals, and at other times to burn and torture prisoners taken in the wars with the early settlers of the country; it was on a meeting of numerous chiefs and tribes for the latter purpose, that this celebrated hill disappeared in the midst of their barbarous rejoicings, and sunk with all its savage inhabitants upon it. And on account of the remarkable depth of the water, which

has never been fathomed, it was supposed to have continued to sink to such an amazing depth, that the bottom dropped out one day. This much for tradition--We do not vouch for the truth of the story, still there is enough that is singular about this pond, to warrant a stranger in going a little distance to view it; its banks are very bold, and decorated on all sides with evergreens and other forest trees--its waters are pure--no weeds or grass grow on its borders, no stream runs into it, or issues from it, and it is found to be highest in the driest time. In this deep water many pike and pickerell [sic] have been taken, weighing from one to five pounds, and it is confidently asserted, that others have been seen which would probably weigh from ten to twenty pounds; this sort never have been taken.

Some of your readers, it is hoped, will give a more particular description of this singular pond.

11-7-53

A NEW THOREAU ANECDOTE by Walter Harding

Anecdotes tend to gather around any colorful character and Thoreau has his share of them, though many we suspect are completely apochryphal such as this one from an unknown newspaper of about forty years ago:

One day Henry was taking one of his fruitful walks near Lake Walden and saw a small boy weeding a vegetable patch. As he watched, the youngster grabbed a large burdock and pulled with all his might. The roots finally gave way and the youngster fell on his back with the burdock in his hands.

"Well done," said Thoreau, "you must be pretty strong to pull out such a big weed."

"Yes, sir," said the boy,"and remember the whole world was pulling on the other side."

11-6-53

A FORGOTTEN THOREAU NOVEL by Walter Harding

Almost entirely forgotten, I believe, is a novel based on Thoreau, published in 1941. It is MR. MEEK MARCHES ON by Homer Croy. Croy (1883-1965), born in Maryville, Mo., was a popular novelist, humorist, and screenwriter. He wrote the scripts for many of Will Rogers' movies. In an interview in the NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE for Feb. 23, 1941 Croy said he got the suggestion for his book from reading Thoreau. "The familiar episode of Thoreau refusing to pay his poll-tax as an example of necessary civil disobedience struck Mr. Croy afresh; he just wondered what would happen if any one did that now, in protest against mounting taxes."

In the novel, which was published by Harper & Bros., Mr. Meek becomes politically successful when he refuses to pay his taxes. Many of his campaign slogans are almost direct quotes from Thoreau. The sheriff who arrests him is appropriately named Sam (after Sam Staples) who is a good friend of Meek and offers to pay Meek's taxes for him. But Croy discusses only economic issues in the novel, overlooking any moral significance of his act. The novel apparently sold poorly for though I have searched for it for years, I have never succeeded in locating a copy new or second-hand.

11-6-53

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The Society will celebrate its fiftieth anniversary in Worcester and Concord, Mass., from Monday, July 8, through Friday, July 19. The celebration will mark both the Society's fiftieth anniversary and the Lyceum's twenty-fifth anniversary, and is being called the Thoreau Society Jubilee. A very rich and varied program of tours, trips, lectures, slide shows, symposia, and discussions has been organized. Some events will be free of charge, but many will have an admission or registration fee. Details are contained in the program guide, which will be mailed to members in late May or early June.

Most of the first week's events (Monday, July 8-Friday, July 12) will occur or originate in Worcester, a city with many Thoreau connections. (A few tours and trips will originate in Concord on the 11th and 12th, however, to accommodate early arrivals who cannot attend the events in Worcester.) The Society's Annual Meeting will be held as usual at the First Parish Church in Concord on Saturday, July 13. All events on Saturday and Sunday and during the following week (July 15-19) will occur or originate in Concord.

Highlights of the Worcester events will be a poetry reading on Monday evening by Donald Hall, poet laureate of New Hampshire; portrayals of Thoreau by David Barto on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings; a concert by the Hutchinson Family Singers on Thursday evening; and a full day of music inspired by or dedicated to Thoreau on Friday. On Friday evening, the world première of "That Mountain," a musical work commissioned for the Jubilee, will take place in Atwood Hall, Clark University, Worcester.

There will be visits to many of the Worcester sites associated with Thoreau, including Washburn Hall, where Thoreau gave his plea for Captain John Brown in 1859, and the building in which the Maxham

Daguerreotype was taken in 1856. Worcester Polytechnic Institute will be Jubilee headquarters during the first week.

The highlight of the Annual Meeting itself will be Walter Harding's reminiscences of the Society's early days. Also during the Meeting we will exchange greetings with members and guests from overseas, as well as representatives of kindred organizations. The Annual Quiz will, of course, be held after the luncheon. Field trips and tours, and a visit to the Concord Free Public Library, will take place during the afternoon. In the evening, there will be a lecture on the wreck of the brig *St. John*.

On Sunday, the Ralph Waldo Emerson Society will conduct a symposium on Emerson and Thoreau at the Concord Museum. That evening, the Hutchinson Family Singers will perform again.

During the second week there will be historical tours, bike tours, canoe trips, and walks in Walden Woods. Beginning on Monday, a day-and-a-half symposium will examine the tradition of American nature writing. A two-and-one-half-day symposium on the ecology of Walden Woods will follow. Events for Thursday evening and Friday are still being planned. Details will be announced at the start of the Jubilee.

For information, write: Thoreau Society Jubilee, 60 Thoreau Street #320, Concord, MA 01742, or telephone (508)371-2783.

11-26-1850

NOTES AND QUERIES

Cartoons of Thoreau, such as the following, are included in nearly every issue of the publications of the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy:

Parker Huber asks when and where Thoreau's works were taught on the college or university level. Can anyone give us a clue?

On May 19, Edmund Schofield will conduct a walk around Walden Pond on "Re-discovering Thoreau's Walden: A Botanical and Ecological Exploration" sponsored by the Arnold Arboretum" For further information consult the Education Register, The Arnold Arboretum, 125 Arborway, Jamaica Plain, Mass. 02130.

James Brasch and Joseph Sigman, HEMINGWAY'S LIBRARY: A COMPOSITE RECORD (Garland, 1981) shows that Hemingway owned the five-volume Concord Edition of Thoreau's Writings (Houghton Mifflin, 1929) plus two separate editions of WALDEN.

Jacob Blanck's BIBLIOGRAPHY OF AMERICAN LITERATURE (8:255) warns that some second printings of the MAINE WOODS first edition have been doctored by scraping the words "Second Edition" off the copyright page.

The Lowell, Mass., National Historic Park among others each year now sponsors a "Thoreau's Portage White Water Invitational Slalom at spring highwater on the Concord River route of Thoreau's WEEK journey.

News items about the efforts to protect Walden Woods continue to appear, for example in the CONCORD JOURNAL forNov. 15 and Dec. 6, 1990 and Jan. 10 and March 7, 1991; the BOSTON GLOBE for Jan. 1, and the WORCESTER TELEGRAM for Jan. 5, 1991

Renaissance Cards of Springvale, Me. have recently issued a Valentine's Day card quoting Thoreau"s "There is no remedy for love but to love more."

A new murder mystery by British author Clive Egleton, entitled A DIFFERENT DRUMMER has just been issued by Scarborough Books.

The Library of America one-volume edition of Thoreau's WEEK, WALDEN, CAPE COD and MAINE WOODS has recently been issued in an electronic edition for $89.

When Arthur Inman, a wealthy Boston hypochondriac committed suicide in 1963, he left his 17,000,000 word diary to Harvard University with funds to underwrite at least its partial publication. They brought out a 2-volume edition in 1985 in which Inman makes occasional references to Thoreau, mostly positive, but the most extended comment has this to say on June 25, 1938: "I have been trying to read Thoreau's 'Walden' but cannot stomach it. What a young boob he was in many ways, so cocksure, with so many trite, dogmatic aphorisms tumbling incoherently off the end of his pen. I rather like his 'Maine Woods' but decidedly dislike his 'Walden.'" (II, 852).

Quite in contrast is the artist N.C. Wyeth's diary which says, "The subtle and glorious glimpses into the life and soul of Thoreau is marvelous and means exceedingly more to me than the Bible and the works of all other men, dead and alive, put together!" (THE WYETHS, Boston: Gambit, 1971, p. 478).

Merton Sealts, in MELVILLE'S READING (Univ. of S.C.Press, 1988, p.116) points out that Melville's line, "War would be left to the red and black ants" in "The Armies of the Wilderness" is probably an allusion to the battle of the ants in WALDEN.

The artist N.C.Wyeth is quoted in THE WYETHS (Boston: Gambit, 1971, p. 412) as saying, "I have worshipped friend Thoreau. Without him my life would be a half blank."

According to EDWARD CARPENTER by Chushichi Tsuzuki (Cambridge Univ. Press, 1980, p.59), Carpenter, the British reformer sent a copy of WALDEN to William Morris. Morris wrote Carpenter in return that he found WALDEN interesting, but he felt that Thoreau looked upon life as a spectator and added, "That's a convenient & pleasant position to take up. I don't object, meantime, to a one-sided way of looking at matters so long as we understand that it is one sided. And I know from experience what a comfortable life one might lead if one could be careful not to concern oneself with persons but with things; or persons in the light of things. But nature won't allow it, it seems, and we must make the best of it, and (when we can) sing under the burden instead of groaning under it."

According to the NEWCASTLE [England] WEEKLY CHRONICLE for Feb. 18, 1893, Julian Harney, the British Chartist, said, Thoreau "had no wife, no children to provide for, and he repudiated civic and social obligations and duties. I am not blaming him. . . But Thoreau cannot be held up as an exemplar."

WALDEN was published four times in translations into Czechoslovakian, in 1902, 1924, 1933, and 1949. The 1949 edition was unfortunately seized and destroyed as subversive. It is good news to learn that it will now be published again there this year by Odeon.

A bust of Thoreau by Malvina Hoffman was dedicated in New York University's Hall of Fame in the Bronx in 1962, the one hundredth anniversary of his death. Shortly thereafter the site was almost completely abandoned and fell into neglect. The colonnade has now been taken over by the Bronx Community College and is being restored. Thoreau's bust has the central position and what is described as "the best view."

A new edition of Louisa May Alcott's novel MOODS, edited by Sarah Elbert, has been published by Rutgers University. Its introduction points outthat one of its central characters is based on Thoreau.

A Japanese college, Bunsai Gakuen College, is being established in Lincoln, Mass., within half a mile of Walden Pond. They intend to feature in their library a special collection ofJapanese scholarly opinion on Thoreau translated into English and available to the general public.

For our book collectors, BOOKMAN'S PRICE INDEX (Vol. 41), gives the following recent prices for first and other special editions: CAPE COD, $600, $275, $550; CAPE COD (with Watson watercolors), $200; EXCURSIONS, $450; LETTERS TO VARIOUS PERSONS, $650; MAINE WOODS, $500; THE SERVICE, $125; WALDEN, $3500; WALDEN (British first edition), $100; WALDEN (Limited Editions Club), $500, $300, $350; WILD APPLES (St. Onge miniature edition), $200; YANKEE IN CANADA, $850. AMERICAN BOOK PRICES CURRENT for 1990 gives these prices: CAPE COD, $1200; CAPE COD (Watson edition), $140; EXCURSIONS, $130, $800; LETTERS, $750; MAINE WOODS, $850; WALDEN, $675, $4750, $4000, $1600, $1100; A WEEK, $3750, $5250, and the manuscript of Thoreau's letter to Blake of Jan. 1, 1859, $11,000.

Pomegranate Publishers of Petaluma, CA. have issued a 1991 calendar with nature photographs and quotations from Thoreau on each page.

The New Haven [Connecticut?] Clock Co. about a hundred years ago manufactured a very elaborate crystal regulator clock in ormolu gold plate or antique Verde case with beveled French plate glass sides and named it, of all things, their "Thoreau" clock

THE NORTON BOOK OF NATURE WRITING, edited by Robert Finch and John Elder and published last year, devotes more space to Thoreau than to any other author.

Marshall Curatolo has for eighteen years been operating a "Walden Pond Books" shop Grand Avenue in Oakland, Ca. He is now being challenged by the WALDENBOOKS chain of bookstores for violation of their trademark name.Since his name predates theirs, we hope he sends them a copy of "Civil Disobedience" in reply, and we wonder if WALDENBOOKS intends to challenge Henry Thoreau next.

Arrived too late for the bibliography above is word of a new novel by Nancy Zaroulis, MASSACHUSETTS: A NOVEL, just published by Fawsett-Columbine in New York which devotes a large portion to the efforts to preserve Walden Woods. More about it in the next bulletin.

11-26-50

ONE FINAL NOTE . . .

Once again, my apologies that so much of this bulletin is my own, but there has been so much I wanted to say in my farewell. But I trust this will really not be a farewell--that I will continue to hear from you and see you at the annual meetings. My thanks to all of you for giving me the fun of editing the bulletin for fifty years. And my best wishes to Bradley Dean in taking up the torch. I hope he enjoys it as much as I have.

Au revoir,

Walter Harding